5 <u>ABSTRACT</u>

Systems and methods for establishing and operating data sessions between mobile subscriber units and packet data servers on a wireless communication network are presented. Some aspects described herein are directed to preventing the loss of an initial configuration request signal (e.g. under the LCP protocol) from a packet data server to a mobile subscriber prior to successful establishment of a radio air link to the mobile subscriber. Other aspects are directed to detecting the presence or absence of a radio air link to the mobile subscriber as a determinant of whether the packet data server is to send a configuration request signal to the mobile subscriber, or whether the packet data server should withhold the request signal until the air link is established. Some or all aspects presented are suitable for use in 3G or CDMA-2000 systems using the A10/A11 communication control protocol and the PPP data communication protocol.

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